

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHRIS
ALLEN

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the family and friends of Chris Allen, a valued member of the Senate Finance Committee staff. Chris was a leader on an issue that is of particular importance to me, retirement security. Chris will always be remembered for his tireless work ensuring the solvency of the pensions of thousands of workers in multiemployer pensions—and his leadership in making it easier for Americans to save for retirement in the SECURE Act.

An alum of Loyola College in Maryland and Johns Hopkins University, he worked on pension and benefit issues and exempt organization issues for the Senate Finance Committee, under both Chairmen CHUCK GRASSLEY and Orrin Hatch. Before he joined the Finance Committee, he worked as a senior economic policy adviser for Senator PAT ROBERTS. And before that, he worked as a consultant and advisor for various groups, including the Financial Accounting Foundation and the National Association of State Treasurers.

Widely known and widely liked, Chris will be remembered for his dedication, his passion, his candor and his sense of humor. His was a warm presence that lightened the tone of meetings and briefings. And he worked hard for what he believed in.

Not just widely known and widely liked, Chris will also be widely missed. We hold in our hearts those closest to Chris, especially his wife Lynda, his daughters Sophie and Lucie, and the rest of his family and friends.

I send my deepest sympathies to the Allen family, to his friends, and to Senator GRASSLEY and to our other colleagues in the Senate, and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING DYLAN COOK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dylan Cook. Dylan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dylan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Dylan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Dylan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dylan Cook for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING FRANK AND
BELINDA VANDERSLOOT

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Frank and Belinda VanderSloot for receiving the 2020 Alturas Institute John and Abigail Adams Award in recognition of their commitment to service and equal protection under the law.

Frank and Belinda VanderSloot have dedicated their time, talents and treasures to the betterment of our world.

When disaster strikes and the world wonders what can be done, the VanderSloots act. Donated trucks, planes, and cargo ships stocked with lifesaving supplies act as an answer to prayers for those whose lives have been turned upside down by natural disaster.

Thanks to their incredible partnership with the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army countless lives have been blessed and lives have literally been saved.

The list of their philanthropy is lengthy, from sponsoring an orphanage in Ecuador or the renovation and donation of a school in Idaho Falls. Family farms have been saved, business have flourished, and scholarships granted all because the VanderSloots choose to act.

Most recently Frank and Belinda have added to their legacy assisting hundreds of people who find themselves in the jaws of overly aggressive medical debt collectors. In establishing a one-million-dollar defense fund, they have given a voice to the voiceless.

Madam Speaker, Frank and Belinda VanderSloot give because of the goodness of their hearts, not for applause or accolades; which is why I stand today to congratulate them on receiving the 2020 Alturas Institute John and Abigail Adams Award and to thank them for 'enhancing lives and doing good where good is needed'.

HONORING DOMINIC & ADI WADE
FOR RECEIVING THE FULTON
MONTGOMERY REGIONAL CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE CHAMBER
FAMILY AWARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dominic & Adi Wade for receiving the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Chamber Family Award.

ing the Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce Chamber Family Award.

Dominic and Adi Wade, builders of Amsterdam's new shopping plaza, Southside Square, have created a wonderful selection of businesses near the Route 5 corridor. The Square now includes a range of small and medium size businesses that greatly benefit the surrounding area. These businesses include Pleasant Cleaners, Southside Beverage, Bourbon Street Wine and Liquor, and DomAdi's Deli. Dominic and Adi Wade established Bourbon Street and DomAdi's Deli themselves, both of which are thriving under their great leadership. The availability of adequate commercial real estate is vital to the economic wellbeing of a community, and the North Country has greatly benefited from the Wade's contributions.

Dominic and Adi Wade have made a lasting positive impact on the vitality of their community, providing much needed investment to the area. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate the Wade Family for this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to their future success.

REMEMBERING THE LEGACY OF
COACH MARC STRINGER

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the incredible legacy of Coach Marc Stringer of White Hall, Arkansas. A longtime coach of basketball and football at White Hall High School, Mr. Stringer lost his battle with cancer several days ago.

Coach Stringer and his family have been longtime residents of Arkansas' Fourth District, and their story serves as a testimony of service to our fellow man and of dedication to seeing future generations succeed.

Coach Stringer coached for nine years, battling cancer for the last three. According to the faculty and students of White Hall School District, Coach Stringer was a "good coach, but an even better person." His dedication to students showed not only in his coaching ability, but also in his creation of Endure the Dirt Adventure Race and Personal Pep Rally, which awards scholarships to students whose families are facing a battle with cancer.

Coach Stringer was also awarded the Norm Stewart Legacy Award in 2018 at the Coaches vs. Cancer Program and the Arkansas Basketball Coaches Association PGC Transformational Coach Award for his perseverance throughout his health struggles.

I'm honored to recognize Coach Stringer's servant leadership and his legacy of endurance in adversity. My prayers are with his family as they mourn his loss.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING DALTON SCOTT RIPLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dalton Scott Ripley. Dalton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 120, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dalton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Dalton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Dalton has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Dalton raised the funds and placed a granite bench in the Veterans Memorial Plaza at the Livingston County Courthouse.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dalton Scott Ripley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ADVANCING RESEARCH TO PREVENT SUICIDE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4704, which advances the knowledge and understanding of issues that may be associated with several aspects of suicide, including intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to wellbeing, resilience, and vulnerability.

The bill directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to provide for additional multidisciplinary research on the science of suicide.

The fundamental research done by the NSF includes but is not limited to basic understanding of human social behavior, the neutral basis of human cognition, the basic understanding of cognitive, linguistic, social, cultural and biological processes related to human development across the lifespan, the basic understanding of perceptual, motor, and cognitive process, and their interaction in typical human behavior; and the basic understanding of the relevance of drug and alcohol abuse.

The rate of Americans dying by suicide is on the rise, increasing from 10.7 to 14 deaths per 100,000 people from 2001 to 2017.

In the UK, the rate of death by suicide per 100,000 people is 11.2, in Canada, 11.3, and in Japan, 14.3.

In 2019, the number of deaths per 100,000 people by suicide in Texas was 13.8, which is relatively high compared to the national high of 14.

Suicide among seniors over the age of 85 in Texas is the highest, with a rate of 19.2 deaths per 100,000 people.

In 2017, there were an estimated 1.4 million suicide attempts and more than 47,000 deaths by suicide nationwide.

Currently, suicide is the tenth-leading cause of death among people in the United States and the second-leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 15 and 34.

Societal costs including lifetime medical care and lost work costs associated with suicide are estimated at \$70 billion.

Ninety percent of all people who died by suicide in Harris County were suffering from a mental illness at the time, most often depression.

The NSF funds will support research that can improve our basic understanding of factors with potential relevance to suicide, including prevention and treatment.

The rate of suicide is far too high in the United States and we must be more aware of the issue in order to take preventative action.

I ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join me in voting in support of H.R. 4704.

RECOGNIZING DR. THERESA FLOYD, PH.D.**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Theresa Floyd, an African American Pioneer and outstanding constituent, who has devoted her life to promoting the importance of faith, family and community in our district.

As an educator, mentor, dedicated volunteer, wife of 54 years, and a mom to seven kids, Dr. Floyd has worn many important hats in our community. Her strong faith-based foundation can be attributed to her time at Jacksonville Theological Seminary, where she earned her Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees. During her education, she served as a role model and counselor for many students who went on to graduate and give back to our community.

Dr. Floyd founded the New Hope Pentecostal Church in Orange Park Florida, where she served the church in many capacities such as Executive Administrator, Board Member, Evangelist, Deaconess and even Choir Director. Her leadership in Orange Park was well regarded by her peers, eventually serving as a town councilmember, school counselor, teacher, and canvassing board member. Ultimately, she and her family were recognized as the Most Outstanding Black Family in the Town of Orange Park.

Currently Dr. Floyd acts as Pastor and Chief Executive of Faith and Deliverance Ministry in Vero Beach. In her role, she provides mentorship and guidance to those suffering from addiction, and helps those who need food and shelter. A true humanitarian, she is always putting others before herself.

The contributions that Dr. Floyd has made to Indian River County are immeasurable and will be felt for generations to come. We are grateful to her for her spiritual works and unwavering altruism, that have made the Treasure Coast a better place for all families to enjoy.

On Tuesday, February 18th, 2020, the Indian River County Board of Commissioners will honor Dr. Floyd's service to our community in celebration of Black History Month. The

Board is dedicated to celebrating African American pioneers in the community such as Dr. Floyd, who have paved the way for future generations.

I ask my colleagues of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Dr. Floyd's service to residents and families across our district, and her continued devotion to making our community a better place.

HONORING CITY OF COACHELLA FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPTAIN MARCOS MACHUCA**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, City of Coachella Fire Department Captain Marcos Machuca, for his years of service to California's 36th Congressional District. After 42 years of exceptional service to our communities, Captain Machuca retired on November 30, 2019.

Captain Machuca fulfilled his childhood dream to serve his community when he joined the City of Coachella Fire Department in 1977. Over his decades' long career, he accumulated a wealth of leadership experience and made a difference in the lives of our friends, families, and neighbors.

Every day, Captain Machuca answered the call to defend our community. For example, when a semi-tractor caught fire in Oasis, he rescued the driver from his truck before it engulfed in flames. This is just one instance of how Captain Machuca's bravery saved a life and prevented tragedy.

Captain Machuca is more than a courageous first responder—he is also a skilled educator. As Fire Captain, he has instilled valuable lessons in the young firefighters he mentored, and he played a key role in growing Coachella's volunteer force.

As a two-time recipient of the Firefighter of the Year award, Captain Machuca exemplifies the qualities of our community's firefighters who work tirelessly to keep us safe. His selflessness, courage, and dedication to public service are inspiring, and his legacy will be felt in Coachella for years to come.

On behalf of our entire community, I thank Captain Machuca for his exceptional service and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING ABRAM STUART**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Abram Stuart. Abram is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Abram has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Abram has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous

merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Abram has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Abram Stuart for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on January 27, 2020, I was unable to vote because I attended the funeral of a close friend.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 23, and YEA on Roll Call No. 24.

HONORING HANEHAN FAMILY DAIRY FOR RECEIVING THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S NEXT GENERATION FARMER AWARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Hanehan Family Dairy for receiving the New York State Agricultural Society's Next Generation Farmer Award. The NYS Agricultural Society honors established producers and industry newcomers who are farming in new and vibrant ways with the Next Generation Farmer Award. For NY agriculture to continue to be successful, the next generation of innovative farmers are needed to work the land, plant crops, raise livestock and feed our global population. The Hanehan family has diversified their business to remain competitive, while continuing their tradition and passing their successful business onto the next generation.

Hanehan Family Dairy maintains two farms in Mount Upton and Saratoga Springs. Upon returning from service in World War II, Edward Hanehan purchased the farm next door to the one that he grew up on. Today, his descendants include his three sons, 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Edward's sons, Charlie, Cliff, and Dave, currently run both farms and several of their children are working their way into the family business as partners, carrying on the agricultural tradition. In addition to their core business of dairy, they also breed livestock and grow pumpkins, raising around eight acres at each farm.

Agriculture is an essential component of the economy in Northern New York and Hanehan Family Dairy exemplifies the quality and diversity of North Country farms. On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to congratulate the entire Hanehan family for this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to their future success.

SUPPORTING VETERANS IN STEM CAREERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Homeland Security, I rise in strong support of S. 153, the "Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act."

It is with the great sacrifice of the men and women, who have served in our armed forces and protected our freedom in mind that I urge members on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor this bill.

We often hear about the many difficulties veterans face while attempting to transition back to civilian life.

From physical and mental trauma to unemployment to the struggles associated with re-familiarizing themselves with civilian life, veterans face many obstacles in life after service.

With respect to employment, nearly one-third of veteran job seekers are underemployed, which is 15.6 percent higher than non-veteran job seekers.

In addition, the Texas Workforce Investment Council reported that in 2017, 35,734 veterans remained unemployed.

In 2019, LinkedIn published its Veteran's Opportunity Report, which stated that veterans who had degrees as well as four or more years of experience were less likely to land the job than less-experienced civilians who applied for the same role.

I am voting in favor of S. 153 because it seeks to address that barrier by encouraging veterans to study and pursue rewarding careers in science, technology, engineering, and math as well as by creating an interagency working group.

This group is tasked with coordinating federal programs for transitioning and training veterans for STEM careers.

By facilitating this process, veterans will be able to have a meaningful career that utilizes their skillsets and secures their livelihood.

In addition, S. 153 will result in filling thousands of open positions and contribute to growing our economy.

Today, STEM careers are growing at an unprecedented rate.

Texas is home to more than three-quarters of a million great STEM jobs.

In fact, Texas is expected to represent nearly 10 percent of future STEM opportunities in the nation.

According to a study by Syracuse University in 2018, Texas possesses the largest percentages of veterans working in the STEM workforce.

At the state-level, 9 percent of veterans work in STEM.

Yet, the report states that 18.66 percent of veterans in Houston are employed in STEM.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, I have strongly supported veterans.

With that in mind, I authored and introduced the "Helping to Encourage Real Opportunity for Veterans Transitioning from Battlespace to Workplace Act", or the HEROES Act, in previous congresses.

Through my advocacy work with veterans, I have come to understand that one of the

greatest barriers to entry for veterans seeking employment is that civilian employers do not adequately understand how the skills, experience, and training of veterans can contribute in the private sector.

In an effort to address this problem, the HEROES Act creates a Military Skills Translator Database to remove that obstacle and better incorporate veterans into the workforce, especially in fields like STEM.

I strongly believe that we must come together and address the barriers that prevent veterans from re-entering the workforce.

It is imperative that we, the American people, continuously recognize the sacrifices these men and women have made to ensure our freedom and safety.

We must take it upon ourselves to try and ease the burdensome transition that thousands of veterans' experience.

And so, I ask all members from both parties to join me in voting to pass S. 153.

HONORING BRADEN TONKS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Braden Tonks. Braden is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Braden has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Braden has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Braden has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Braden Tonks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on January 27, 2020 due to National Guard obligations. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 23, and YEA on Roll Call No. 24.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PETRA RUIZ OF COACHELLA VALLEY

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to tell the Nation about the life and legacy of Petra Ruiz of the Coachella Valley.

Petra Ruiz was an organizer, activist, and leader who used her life to stand up for farmworking women across California.

As the son of farmworkers in the eastern Coachella Valley, I am all too familiar with the social, economic, and political hardships the farmworking community faces on a daily basis. The struggles can often be so great that you have to have someone or something to look to for inspiration. For me, and for so many of us in the Coachella Valley, Petra Ruiz was one such inspiration.

Petra was a fierce and loving leader who was held in high esteem, even by the people who didn't agree with what she had to say. But it was hard not to agree with what she had to say. You see, Petra believed in helping farmworking women across California advocate for themselves, for their families, and for their communities in the struggle for equality and their basic human rights.

Petra got involved in the union movement in the 1970s and was a warrior for justice and equality within the farmworking community through her final days.

A phrase that I have heard repeatedly in talking with members of the community and with her family is "she was always there." Petra was always there.

Even as a mother and a grandmother to a big family, she worked with the United Farm Workers of America to advocate for the rights of the farmworker community. Petra led marches; she attended meetings; she would even go door-to-door with flyers making sure that farmworkers knew their rights.

Petra was a remarkable woman, revered, admired, a mover and shaker, an effective leader who led with her actions as much as she did by her words. She inspired me to never say no to my dreams, to pursue justice at every turn, and to always believe I could make a difference.

Madam Speaker, while she is missed dearly, Petra's legacy didn't end with her passing. Her impact is felt today and will continue in the lives of generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, on January 27, 2020, I was unable to be present for the recorded votes on roll call no. 23 and 24. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 943, the Never Again Education Act, and YEA on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended H.R. 4704, the Advancing Research to Prevent Suicide Act.

HONORING JACOB WOOTTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob Wootton. Jacob is a very special young man who has

exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob Wootton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CELEBRATING THE FOUNDING OF COMMONWEALTH OF FAITH CHURCH

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Commonwealth of Faith Church as they put down their roots in Redford Township, Michigan.

Under the leadership of Pastor Torion Bridges, like-minded community members came together with the common goal of establishing a multi-generational house of worship to serve the spiritual needs of the surrounding community. They were able to establish a brand-new congregation by relighting the lamps of the building formerly home to St. Robert of Bellarmine Church. This group of people have sought to breathe new life into an existing building and work to bring a diverse group of people together in community service and in faith.

Please join me in recognizing Commonwealth of Faith Church as they establish their spiritual community and teachings, and become rooted in Redford.

HONORING MR. KEN ARMSTRONG FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ken Armstrong for his years of dedicated service to the Boy Scouts of America, specifically Troop ONE in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

First Presbyterian Church of Hot Springs chartered Troop ONE in 1923, making it the oldest continuously chartered chapter in the State of Arkansas. Mr. Armstrong's own career with Troop ONE began in 1994 and continued for another 25 years after he was named Scoutmaster for the troop in 1998. He will be retiring on February 9, 2020 after 21 years as the Scoutmaster for Troop ONE.

With more than 40 years of service as both a youth scout and as a Scoutmaster in Arkansas and Texas, Mr. Armstrong was also

awarded the Silver Beaver Award last year in recognition of his lifelong service in leadership. He remains a respected mentor and resource to countless young people in the Fourth District.

I'd like to thank Mr. Armstrong for his years of dedicated service and for his commitment to ensuring a brighter future for young people of the Fourth District of Arkansas.

NEVER AGAIN EDUCATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 943, "Never Again Education Act," which requires the creation of the Holocaust Education Assistance Program Fund for the Department of Education.

The fund will award grants to qualified entities to implement Holocaust education programs and host a series of regional workshops to provide teachers with assistance on how to incorporate Holocaust education into standard teaching while meeting state and local education requirements.

The establishment of the Holocaust Education Advisory Board to prepare application criteria for grant recipients, and the formulation of the Holocaust education program website will allow for a regulated, definitive introduction of this curriculum.

Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27, is an international memorial day that marks the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camps in January 1945.

In addition to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp, we must also remember the victims of the Belzec, Bergen-Belsen, Buchenwald, Chelmno, Dachau, Dora-Mittelbau, Flossenburg, Gross-Rosen, Janowska, Kaiserwald, Majdanek, Mauthausen, Natzweiler-Struthof, Neuengamme, Oranienburg, Plaszow, Ravensbruck, Sachsenhausen, Sobibor, Stutthof, Terezin, Treblinka and Westerbork concentration camps.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum states that the extermination by the Nazi regime and its allies led to the deaths of 6 million Jews.

In addition to the millions of deaths within the Jewish community, the Third Reich separately targeted and murdered many other communities and ethnic groups, some estimates range from an additional 3 million to 11 million deaths.

These deaths include members of the LGBTQ community, the physically and mentally disabled, Freemasons, Jehovah's Witnesses, the Romani, Poles, Serbians, Spanish Republicans, members of the Soviet Union, Soviet Prisoners of War, people of Slavic descent, Germans of African descent, Communists, Socialists and more.

After Adolf Hitler's invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, France and Britain declared war on Germany, officially beginning World War II.

World War II lasted from 1939 to 1945 and caused about 75 million deaths, including members of the military and civilians, around 3 percent of the world's population at the time.

Almost 75 years have passed since the end of World War II, but the aftermath is still a reminder of a brutal and merciless era of history

where racism and prejudice were unleashed on a grand scale seeking to quench the rights of man.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum reports that its Registry of Holocaust Survivors currently contains the names of over 195,000 survivors and family members.

In 1981, Holocaust survivor and Houston resident Siegi Izakson had the inspiration to create an education center and memorial to preserve the memory of those who perished, the stories of those who survived and to educate the public about the threats of prejudice and hatred in society.

Thanks to Siegi Izakson's tireless dedication, the Holocaust Museum Houston opened on March 3, 1996 and is fully bilingual in English and Spanish, contains a welcome center, multiple galleries, a research library, indoor theater, outdoor amphitheater and interactive terminals with doors open to 130,000 visitors per year.

In the United States, there are over 50 Holocaust museums and memorials dedicated to educating people about the dangers of hatred and genocide, protecting democratic values and preventing antisemitism.

In June 2019, Texas enacted S. Bill 1828, requiring that Texas schools include age appropriate instruction concerning the Holocaust for grades kindergarten through 12.

The Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission has worked with Texas government agencies to adopt new educational standards that approach the Holocaust, genocide and mass murders.

Texas students will learn about these topics in their World Geography Studies, World History Studies, and United States History Studies Since 1877 courses.

I support this bill because it will enhance the quality of our students' education and provide them with an authentic understanding of this dark and complex chapter in world history.

The creation of the Holocaust Education Assistance Program Fund for the Department of Education will only improve the knowledge provided to our children.

The Holocaust Education Assistance Program Fund for the Department of Education will award grants to eligible entities to create Holocaust education program and conduct workshops with teachers on how to include this information along with students' normal educational programs.

The Department of Education will maintain a Holocaust education program website with resources for middle and high school students, establish the Holocaust Education Advisory Board to develop criteria for the fund's grants, and decide on content for the Holocaust education program website and lead efforts to promote donations for the fund.

The Holocaust requires us to remember the magnitude with which antisemitism, racism, Nazism and fascism destroyed millions of lives, as well as consider the consequences of apathy and passivity.

I ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to vote in support of H.R. 943.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I left the House chamber without casting my vote on the last measure of the evening. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on H.R. 4704 Advancing Research to Prevent Suicide Act.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY OF DOUGLAS DILLARD

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Douglas Dillard, a long-time resident of Detroit, Michigan, who celebrates his seventy-fifth birthday this year.

Mr. Dillard was born February 2, 1945, the second of seven children born to the late Christopher and Virginia Dillard. He is proud graduate of historical Detroit Northwestern High School, class of 1963. Mr. Dillard earned a Computer Science and Industrial Management degree from Detroit Institute of Technology.

After graduating, Mr. Dillard worked as a designer for Ford Motor Company Body Engineering, a career that spanned twenty-seven years. In his free time, Mr. Dillard was an enthusiastic softball player. He garnered numerous awards, including many All Stars and Most Valuable Player awards. Mr. Dillard has also participated in the Huntsman World Senior Games and has been inducted into its Hall of Fame. He currently operates Gray Street Housing. He enjoys his time spent with his wife Gloria and their three grown children.

Please join me in celebrating Mr. Douglas Dillard's seventy-fifth birthday.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY 2020

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the International Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust. The United Nations General Assembly designated January 27 as this remembrance day to inspire reflection on the events that led to the execution of more than six million Jews and countless other oppressed communities.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi death camp, which I visited in August 2018. This complex is most notorious for its horrific death toll, resulting in more than 1.1 million deaths in its few years of operation. To describe the inhumanity observed in Auschwitz and other camps, Holocaust survivor Lilly Appelbaum Malnik stated the following:

"And they said, 'From now on you do not answer by your name. Your name is your

number.' And the delusion, the disappointment, the discouragement that I felt, I felt like I was not a human person anymore."

We must never forget the victims of the Holocaust and never cease working towards a more just society. Within 25 years, it is likely no Holocaust survivor will be alive to account for the events carried out in extermination camps. According to a 2018 survey commissioned by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, 41 percent of American adults do not know about Auschwitz. With hate crimes reaching a 16-year high in 2018, it is imperative that we recount the atrocities of the Holocaust, lest discrimination based on race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity continue to spread.

Madam Speaker, people throughout the world are coming together to commemorate the more than six million lives lost during the Holocaust. We stand in solidarity with the United Nations in remembering these victims and honoring those who defend human rights. We must always be vigilant that this horror of humanity is never repeated.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF IAN MCBETH

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor the life and service of Mr. Ian McBeth, a Colorado-born firefighter who was killed in a helicopter crash in Australia this month. Mr. McBeth went to Australia as a volunteer assisting in fighting that nation's devastating wildfires.

Born and raised in Wray, Colorado, Mr. McBeth served in the Wyoming Air National Guard while a student at the University of Wyoming and later joined the Air National Guard in Montana. His service included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He is survived by his wife and three children.

Coloradans and Americans throughout the West know all too well the great cost wildfires have on life, land, and our environment. These devastating impacts are curtailed only through the enormous sacrifice and bravery of the men and women who set aside their personal safety to run toward the blaze with the goal of saving their neighbors and communities. We are endlessly indebted to all those who rise to serve these dire needs, and particularly those who give their lives in these fights.

I send my deepest condolences to Mr. McBeth's family, friends, and all those who were impacted by his loss. We thank Mr. McBeth for his many years of service for our nation.

REMEMBERING KENNETH C. RYKEN

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the life

and memory of Kenneth C. Ryken, who recently passed away.

Ken was born in Walnut Creek, California on April 27, 1965, to proud parents Richard and Deanna Ryken. He grew up in the East Bay where he attended and graduated from Hayward High School in 1983. Upon graduating from high school, Ken went on to study at Chabot College, San Francisco State University, and the University of Southern California, where he received his law degree.

After graduating law school, Ken began practicing law with Sedgwick LLP, and in 1996 he joined the Alameda County District Attorney's office where I had the privilege of having him as a colleague. Ken served as the office's finance director and an assistant district attorney until his passing on January 5, 2020. Ken was frequently described as a "rock" and a "shining star" by his colleagues and superiors.

One of the accomplishments Ken was most proud of during his career was the creation of Clean Slate Services in collaboration with the East Bay Community Law Center. This practice helps reduce the pathways into the criminal justice system and removes barriers to employment and civic participation for people with criminal records. Ken's work was pivotal to the creation of this program, and it is only one of the many highlights of his career.

Ken's commitment to public service and his community extended beyond working for the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. Ken was a proud member of the 100 Club and the Hayward Rotary Club, and he served on the board of directors for the Hayward Area Historical Society. Outside of work Ken was known to be a music enthusiast who especially loved his bass guitar.

We lost Ken far too soon. He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Jean Luevano, as well as his children, Jackson and Lauren, grandson, Wesley, parents, Dick and Deanna, and siblings, Tim and Kathy. Ken loved spending time with his family and was always a proud husband, father, and grandfather. His legacy will live on through them and the everlasting impact he made on our community.

JIM LEHRER

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, today, I pay tribute to Mr. Jim Lehrer who passed away at the age of 85 last week.

Mr. Lehrer is dear to Texas' 27th district because he graduated from Victoria College, right in my hometown of Victoria, Texas, in 1956.

As a student, he wrote for the college paper, the Jolly Roger, and worked as a ticket agent at the Continental Trailways station downtown.

Today a plaque near the bus station he worked at 65 years ago honors his accomplishments.

After college, he sacrificially served our country for three years with the United States Marines.

He then went on to the Dallas Morning News, reporting on local politics before making the change to television.

He never forgot his Texas roots, despite the fact that he went on to have a distinguished career as a world-renowned journalist.

Over the span of his lifetime, he moderated twelve presidential debates, cofounded and hosted PBS NewsHour for 36 years, and authored numerous books.

Through much hard work and determination, he achieved great success as a journalist, and we are proud that he called Victoria home for a little while.

He is survived by his wife of six decades, Kate, three daughters, Jamie, Lucy, and Amanda, and six grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, on Monday, January 27, 2020, I regret not being present for two vote sessions. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the Never Again Education Act, H.R. 943, Roll Call No. 23, and voted in support of the Advancing Research to Prevent Suicide Act, H.R. 4704, Roll Call No. 24.

HONORING KING BROTHERS DAIRY FOR RECEIVING THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor King Brothers Dairy for receiving the New York State Agricultural Society's Business of the Year Award. For over 17 years, the NYS Agricultural Society has presented Business of the Year honors to both a producer and an agribusiness, recognizing the quality, leadership and innovation they demonstrate that enhances the integrity of the industry.

King's Ransom Farm, located in Schuylerville has been in operation for over 100 years. Jan and Jeff King's grandparents had been in the creamery business through the 1960s and in 2010, the family decided to return to their roots, establishing King Brothers Dairy. They began bottling and delivering milk from their own 1,000-cow herd to customers in their community and throughout the Hudson Valley. In 2019, they launched a retail store, selling over 34 flavors of ice cream and local products sourced from the area. When I visited the King Brothers Dairy in 2018 with USDA Secretary Perdue, I was impressed with their dedication to producing wholesome dairy products and providing excellent customer service. Their popularity within the community and their commitment to quality warrant this recent award.

Agriculture is an essential component of the economy in Northern New York and King Brothers Dairy exemplifies the quality and diversity of North Country farms. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to congratulate the entire King Family for this well-deserved recognition. I look forward to their future success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ENEDINA CELIZ RAPAN

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember and recognize the incredible life of Enedina Celiz Rapan, who passed away this month at the age of 93.

I was raised in a farmworker community with farmworker parents in the eastern Coachella Valley, where, for many of us, hardship and injustice can feel like the norm; and if it weren't for women like Enedina Rapan, many of us would still believe that it is true, and we would not be standing where we are today.

Enedina came to America at a young age to work hard, earn her living, and give her children a better life. And while she was working away in the fields, sweating in 120-degree heat with calloused hands, she witnessed the mistreatment of her fellow farmworkers and she saw their suffering.

If there is one thing about Enedina, it is that, when she saw injustice, she would speak up and get to work to fix it. So, when she saw farmworkers laboring for hours on end with no bathrooms nearby, she fought to bring restrooms to the fields.

And when she saw seniors in the community going hungry, she organized, asking for donations and cooking meals so they could have dinner to eat.

And Enedina devoted her life to standing up for people who were mistreated, discriminated against, and vulnerable. There was no voice too soft that Enedina didn't hear and elevate.

Enedina was a giant for our community, serving as a co-founder of Mujeres Mexicanas and Lideres Campesinas while working with the United Farm Workers of America and Cesar Chavez to stand up for the rights of farmworkers. She used her tireless will and unmatched strength to pick people up, fight for what is right, and make the Coachella Valley a better place for everyone who lives there.

I am better off because of Enedina's work. My family and the entire farmworker community of the Coachella Valley, we are all better off because of Enedina's work.

And she would not be happy with me for being up here talking about her, because she was so humble. A woman who elevated everyone's voice around her, she would never seek this type of recognition.

Madam Speaker, today, I want to make sure the country knows Enedina's story. I want to make sure you know about her contributions to our community and her unrelenting pursuit of justice. Enedina will be sorely missed, but her presence will be felt and her life, an inspiration for years to come.

MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 27, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of Congress, I rise in support

of H.R. 5671, the "Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2020", a bill that recognizes World War II merchant mariner veterans with congressional gold medals for their service to the United States.

I am a strong proponent of our veteran population having the recognition they deserve for their bravery, honor, valor and sacrifice.

Throughout World War II, our armed forces relied on the Merchant Marine to provide combat equipment, fuel, food, commodities and raw materials to troops stationed abroad in both theaters of operation, and they paid a heavy price in service to their country.

The Merchant Marine is a war essential supply chain that transports the nation's cargoes in times of peace and prosperity, and in times of war and grave danger.

Military missions and war planning are contingent upon the availability of resources and the Merchant Marine played a vital role in this regard.

The Merchant Marine provided for the successful transport of resources and personnel despite consistent and ongoing exposure to enemy combatants from both the air and the sea, including from enemy bomber squadrons, submarines, and naval mines.

The Merchant Marines were the best informed and most widely traveled, constantly supplying the front-line troops until they could break through German, Japanese and Italian aggression to secure victory.

The Merchant Marine suffered the highest per capita casualty rate in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.

An estimated 8,300 mariners lost their lives, and another 12,000 were wounded during WWII.

The Merchant Marine proved to be an instrumental asset on an untold number of occasions, participating in every landing operation by the United States Marine Corps, from Guadalcanal to Okinawa.

Merchant Marines were engaged in the longest battle of the war—the Battle of the At-

lantic, fought over the vital supply lines to Europe—and they fought longer than any other branch of the service.

These mariners have waited over 70 years to get the recognition they earned braving the perils of the Atlantic during the Second World War.

There are 1.5 million veterans living in Texas and each of them deserve recognition for their service and sacrifice for this nation.

Approximately 16 million Americans served in World War II and have come to receive veteran status after the somber duration, but victorious conclusion of the war.

More than a quarter million, 250,000 thousand civilian sailors, served in the U.S. Merchant Marine by the end of the war.

Despite their honorable, vital and heroic service in wartime, the men of the U.S. merchant marine were not officially accorded veteran status until 1988, decades following the end of World War II.

The feats and accomplishments of the Merchant Marine are deserving of broader public recognition.

Unfortunately, the courageous contribution of the Merchant Mariners sacrifices are commonly overlooked.

Every American owes these mariners a debt of gratitude we cannot begin to repay.

The Congressional Gold Medal would be an appropriate way to shed further light on the service of the merchant mariners in World War II and the instrumental role they played in winning that war.

I ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to vote in support of H.R. 5671.

HONORING RAYMOND LERMA

HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Raymond Lerma, a be-

loved husband, father, and leader in the community of Corcoran, California. Ray passed away on January 11th. Among his many honored roles in life, Ray served 25 years as Mayor and Councilmember in Corcoran and was a pillar of the community.

Ray was born in El Paso, Texas and raised in Corcoran in a large and loving family that worked hard, long days in the fields of the Central Valley. Encouraged by his parents to reach for higher education, Mr. Lerma graduated from UC Berkeley—he was a proud CAL Bear.

After college, Ray returned to the community that raised him to build his own family with his beloved wife Lola. He touched countless lives in his 38 years as an educator at Corcoran High School. He also kept changing lives after retirement, teaching English as a second language to adult learners. Ray also served as a longtime board member of the Kings Community Action Organization, which helps bring resources to the Central Valley.

Ray once said that he wanted to be remembered as someone who made a difference in his community. I stand before you today to say we will always remember his dedication and contributions to the community, and we will miss his leadership.

Raymond Lerma leaves behind his wife Lola, their three children, Eva, Ramon, and Pablo, as well as his grandchildren.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I was out of the chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 24.